PATENT APPLICATION

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE In the Application of

Yutaka YAMAGATA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1743

Application No.: 09/674,304

Filed: August 6, 2001

Docket No.: 107734

For:

LIQUID TREATING EQUIPMENT INCLUDING A STORAGE VESSEL AND A

DISCHARGE VESSEL

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- \boxtimes This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- \boxtimes The references were cited in the European Search Report. An English language version of the European Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: February 25, 2004

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DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE **AUTHORIZATION** Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461

of 1 Sheet 1 US Dept. of Commerce ATTY DOCKET NO. APPLICATION NO. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE (REV. 8-83) 09/674,304 107734 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary) **APPLICANT** Yutaka YAMAGATA et al. **FILING DATE GROUP** August 6, 2001 1743 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS **EXAMINER** SUB NAME **INITIAL DOCUMENT NUMBER** DATE . **CLASS CLASS** 1 4,545,801 10/8/1985 MIYAJIRI et al. FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS SUB **DOCUMENT NUMBER** DATE **COUNTRY CLASS CLASS** 2 EP 0 410 273 A1 1/30/1991 Europe 3 DE 44 17 083 A1 Germany 11/23/1995 4 EP 0 777 078 A1 6/4/1997 Europe OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) **EXAMINER** DATE CONSIDERED

Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in

conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Date: February 25, 2004

Examiner: